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THE FOREST SERVICE ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY

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IN

INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY

Compiled by

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INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY

The Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, participates in many international forestry activities. The framework within which the Forest Service conducts its international business is not widely known, however--even to foresters who participate. The purpose of this document, then, is three-fold: (1) to describe current types of international activites in which the Forest Service participates, (2) to document the institutional framework within which the Forest Service operates internationally, and (3) to bring together in one place concise descriptions of the aims, objectives, and structures of the principal international organizations and agencies with which the Forest Service is involved in multilateral or bilateral forestry programs.

Five categories of Forest Service international activities are summarized in the introductory section of this report, followed by a broad overview of the institutional framework within which these activities are accomplished.

The major part of this report is a catalog of the principal organizations--domestic and international--with which the Forest Service cooperates in forestry-related matters, internationally. Rapidly unfolding international activity in all areas of human concern, much of which in some way relates to work of the Forest Service, quickly outdates any list of involved action agencies. However, the organizations listed are the main ones. They account for most of the acronyms that crop up in bureaucratic papers and conversation. Knowing what and where they are may, hopefully, clear up some of the confusion.

TYPES OF INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY

Technical Assistance Abroad

Almost from its beginning, the Forest Service has been called upon to furnish forestry specialists for advisory missions abroad. Most requests now come from three sources: (1) Agency for International Development (AID), (2) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); and (3) Joint Commission Agreements between U.S. Federal Departments and certain countries no longer eligible for direct assistance.

Forest Service specialists assigned to bilateral programs of technical assistance under AID or Joint Commission Agreements remain on the Forest Service roles and are made available on a cost-reimbursable basis. Specialists are assigned to FAO or other multilateral programs under provisions of Public Law 85-795, Federal Employees International Organizations Service Act. This law authorizes Federal agencies to release employees for fixed-term service with international organizations and conventions to which the U.S. Government is signatory. Release can be either via transfer to the roles of the gaining organization, with guaranteed re-employment rights for the employee, or via detail, with provision for reimbursement of specified costs to the releasing agency.

Training of Foreign Nationals

Technical assistance activities include, in addition to assignment of Forest Service specialists overseas, the servicing of foreign nationals sent for observational, on-the-job, or academic training in the United States. This involves planning and coordination at the Washington Office, as well as in the field.

Science and Technology Exchanges

Better protection and management of the World's forest resources have resulted from participation of Forest Service scientists and managers in a wide variety of international meetings and in continuing programs of exchange with cooperating countries and organizations. Continuing programs of exchange may be on a bilateral or multilateral basis. They involve exchange visitation, direct scientist-to-scientist correspondence, literature exchange, and cooperative research.

Formal bilateral agreements have been in force for several years with Japan, Spain, and the Soviet Union. The bilateral agreements with our immediate neighbors--Canada and Mexico--are considerably more extensive, and frequently modified to accommodate changing needs and circumstances.

Examples of multilateral exchanges which involve continuing Forest Service contribution are the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) program of UNESCO, and the work of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO). Other commitments, such as to the International Council for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF), are likely to increase in the near future. These and other international organizations, with which the Forest Service cooperates, are described in Part II of this report.

Special Foreign Currency Research Program

Title 1 of the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (PL-480) authorizes expenditure of certain U.S.-held foreign currencies for research by foreign institutions on problems of mutual interest to the United States and the recipient country. Forest Service scientists are asked to review proposals for forestry-related research to be funded by the special foreign currencies. Once approved, and funds granted, the research is conducted by the designated foreign institution in collaboration with a co-operating scientist in the United States. In addition to reviewing progress reports, and continuing correspondence with the principal investigator, duties of the cooperating scientist include editing of manuscripts and on-site review of active projects.

Technical Cooperation

Other federal agencies frequently need assistance in their forestry-related international activities. Forest Service specialists have worked on limited term assignments to the Peace Corps and to the Department of State's Bureau of International Organization Affairs, as well as to several bureaus and offices of the Agency for International Development.

THE INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

The foregoing activities are accomplished through a complicated network of national and international agencies and organizations.

Essential institutional ingredients are, of course, the governmental agencies responsible for carrying out their nations' international affairs. Generally these responsibilities are centralized within a Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Ministry, Department of State, or similarily designated major arm of the national government. In most countries, however, certain special authorities are delegated to other agencies throughout the central government for carrying out particular activities that, in some limited way, may involve international commitments. Thus, the Forest Service deals directly with its foreign equivalent organization in arranging for bilateral exchange of science and technology.

National governments frequently are signatory to numerous intergovernmental organizations, conventions, and multi-lateral agreements. These form the institutional "backbone" for accomplishing world-wide goals, such as trade regulation, peacekeeping, and economic development. The United Nations--with its several component programs, as well as the United Nations "family" of specialized organizations--accounts for most multi-lateral effort on a world-wide scale. There are many other intergovernmental organizations, however, drawn together on a geopolitical or other basis for specialized purposes, such as integration of trade or mutual defense. At governing assemblies, where forestry-related matters are under consideration, the Forest Service frequently is asked to formulate the United States official position.

A third category of institutions for cooperative achievement internationally is the non-governmental organization. Frequently these are "unions" of several similar, autonomous organizations that have affilated across national boundaries for a common cause. Others are true "societies", open to membership by individuals and academic institutions or other "sponsoring" bodies--private and public--throughout the world. Included here, also, would be several of the well-established international congresses and world conferences which convene periodically to focus world attention on problems of common concern.

One further institutional device of increasing usage in international activities is the consortium. Within the United States, many universities and colleges have grouped together in consortia, formed to provide "pooled" resources available for undertakings which are beyond, in scope, the capabilities of any single member institution. The same concept is employed at the international level by the grouping of national agencies, international organizations, private foundations, volunteer groups, and others into cooperative consortium programs of assistance to a particular geographical region or problem area.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Many International involvements of the Forest Service are coordinated under USDA's International Agricultural Cooperation and Development Committee (IACDC), whose purpose is: "to make recommendations on basic objectives, policies, and proposals arising from the administration of the Department's scientific and technical cooperation programs; and to develop ways and means of effectively utilizing the Department's competence and resources in support of U.S. foreign assistance and cooperative exchange activities assigned to the Department."

Because the Forest Service is actively involved in nearly all aspects of international cooperation and development, it is represented on each of the four subcommittees of IACDC: Technical Assistance, International Training, International Organizations, and Scientific Cooperation.

Actual administration of USDA's international activities is coordinated through the Office of International Cooperation and Development (OICD). This office is organized parallel to the subcommittee structure of IACDC. The Director and staff of International Forestry work closely with the Director and staff of OICD. The Director, OICD, serves as special assistant and advisor to the Under Secretary for International Affairs and Commodity Programs.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The Department of State is the Nation's focal point for most international affairs. Broad lines of activity lead to separate coordinating centers within the Department.

Bilateral programs of technical assistance are administered by the Agency for International Development (AID). Several separate offices of AID call upon the Forest Service for technical cooperation--either on a short-term consultant basis or full time over an extended specified period.

Official United States representation in affairs of international organizations is coordinated by the Bureau of International Affairs (OI). United States participation in the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) program of UNESCO is coordinated in this Bureau, as is United States representation to FAO.

The government-wide programs of scientific and technical exchange arise, generally, in the Bureau of Oceans and International Environment and Scientific Affairs (OES).

OTHER FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

Federal departments other than USDA sometimes are the prime signatories of Joint Commission Agreements with foreign countries, or they may be delegated responsibility for administering programs of scientific and technical exchange which call for Forest Service contribution to forestry-related matters.

The Office of Science and Technology Policy, (OST) whose Director is the principal advisor to the President on science and technology, serves as the focal point for intergovernmental coordination of many bilateral agreements.

National Science Foundation, (NSF) through its Division of International Programs, promotes international cooperation and understanding through science programs. Many of its programs are closely related to forestry.

The Peace Corps, under a cooperative agreement, has a Forest Service specialist assigned to it to provide technical liaison between the agencies. The Forest Service will provide technical assistance for Peace Corps planning, training, and development programs in forestry worldwide.

The National Academy of Science (NAS), a quasi-official agency, is an important link to scientific institutions and professional organizations in foreign countries, and is active in marshalling U.S. expertise to address specific global problems. The NAS frequently calls on the Forest Service to provide specialists to serve on panels and committees for forestry-related matters.

ACADEMIC COMMUNITY AND NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

The Forest Service works informally with many academic and private nonprofit organizations to help improve world forestry.

Most work with the academic community is coordinated under Title XII of the International Development and Food Act of 1975, which strengthened the role of U.S. colleges and universities in overseas assistance programs. Title XII established the Board of International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD), a coordinating body. A number of university consortia, formed under BIFAD, are particularly active in forestry-related programs, and call on the Forest Service for technical assistance. For instance:

SECID	Southeastern Consortium for International Development.
MUCIA	Midwestern Universities Consortium for International Activities.
MIAC	Midamerican International Agricultural Consortium.
CID	Consortium for International Development.
OTS	Organization of Tropical Studies.
UNIFOR	Universities for International Forestry.

Private foundations that have contributed greatly to international forestry are the Ford Foundation and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

Volunteers in Technical Assistance, (VITA) is a representative non-profit private organization working in developing countries. A major interest has been reforestation in arid and semi-arid lands, particularly the Sahelian countries of West Africa. Forest Service scientists serve as technical reviewers for proposed VITA projects, and are a major source of current data on forestry, especially reforestation.

PRINCIPAL INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY ORGANIZATONS

THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

The largest and most important international organization in which the Forest Service participates is the United Nations with its array of Councils, Commissions, Programs, Funds, and its "family" of Specialized Agencies.

UN Headquarters, its Secretary-General, and the General Assembly are located in New York. The General Assembly is the overall governing body of member nations. The five principal organs of the UN are the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat.

The UN structure is complex, with many agencies and organizations related or responsible to the UN through special arrangements or agreements. The major organizations with forestry interests include the Regional Economic Commissions, and several of the Specialized Agencies (FIGURE 1). In general, they work with one another and the UN through ECOSOC.

UN Regional Economic Commissions

There are four Regional Economic Commissions. The basic aim of these Commissions is to assist in raising the level of economic activity in their respective regions, and to strengthen economic relations among all countries, both within and without the region.

The Commissions are organs of ECOSOC and report annually to the Council. However, they have the authority to adopt their own rules of procedure and to appoint their own chairpersons. No Commission action can be taken in any country without the full agreement of that country.

Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)

The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, was established in 1947 to assist in the economic reconstruction of Europe, to raise the level of economic activity, and to strengthen the economic relations of the European countries.

Membership in ECE consists of 34 countries, including European members of the United Nations, the United States, the USSR, and Canada. The Commission meets annually in the spring.

The ECE has 12 subsidiary bodies acting in a consultative and advisory capacity, reporting on their activities and making recommendations to the Commission. One of these, the ECE Timber Committee, is serviced by a joint secretariat of FAO technical experts and ECE general services staff, and meets annually.

The ECE Timber Committee was originally charged with the task of helping forest industries reequip themselves after World War II by raising production and assuring that short supplies of timber were directed where needed. It has two main subsidiary bodies of particular interest to foresters:

1. FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers (ILO: International Labor Organization).
2. FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Forest Products Statistics.

The first of these is concerned with efficiency of forest operations. Emphasis is on testing and introducing improved machinery and working methods, raising manual and mechanical skills, and elevating the worker's social and economic status when it lags behind that of their industrial counterparts. The work is carried out by four study groups, which organize technical study tours, seminars, and training courses in the following sectors:

1. Mechanization of forest work.
2. Methods and organization of forest work.
3. Vocational training and prevention of accidents in forest work.
4. Multilingual glossary of forest work science.

The International Labor Organization (ILO) collaborates with the ECE and FAO in these programs and activities because of its interest in job training, optimum use of manpower, and improving living and working conditions of labor.

The Working Party on Forest Economic and Forest Products Statistics regularly publishes statistics on trade in forest products. It is also concerned with utilization of wood, and sponsors forestry tours of member states, passing on its findings to other UN Commissions in the less-developed regions of the world. Additional work consists of:

1. Classification and definition of forest products.
2. Conversion factors for forest products.
3. Forest inventory for the ECE Region.

Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE)

Although the structure of this Commission is somewhat similar to the ECE, some priorities, needs, and conditions are different. The Commission, headquartered in Bangkok, Thailand, has three standing committees: Industry and Natural Resources, Trade and Inland Transport, and Communications. Surveys have been conducted on the forest resources of some of the countries in the region, but to date, timber has not played a role comparable to that of timber in the European area.

Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA)

This Commission, headquartered in Santiago, Chile, has established two permanent bodies--the Central American Economic Cooperative Committee, and the Trade Committee. These, in turn, have subcommittees or working groups.

Surveys of the natural resources of Latin America have had high priority. Economic development in this area is closely associated with social and cultural conditions because of the prevalent high rates of birth and illiteracy. Energy, water resources, transportation, agriculture, and trade have received the highest priorities for assistance and development.

Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

This commission, headquartered in Addis Ababa, Ethopia, was established in 1958. While its aims are similar to those of other Economic Commissions, it emphasizes the social aspect of economic development. Like those of Latin America, most of the ECA countries are in the process of development. However, Africa has special problems, and personnel training is an important role for the Commission. The trainees receive instruction both within and outside the continent. Agriculture, trade, industry, transport, forestry, and social problems are the main areas of the Commission's work.

Food and Agriculture Organization

FAO is a specialized agency of the UN family of organizations. It is an autonomous body with its own membership, constitution, secretariat, and administrative facilities. It works closely with the UN, and reports to this body through the ECOCOS.

Policy is formed by the FAO Conference of member nations, which meets for three weeks, every two years. Between sessions, work of the Organization is coordinated by the Council of representatives elected by the Conference. The Council, in turn, is organized into five Permanent Committees which monitor the work of the FAO, review the world food situation and related disciplines, such as agriculture and forestry, and make recommendations to the Conference.

The purpose of FAO's Regular Program is to collect, analyze, interpret, and disseminate information relating to nutrition, food, and agriculture. The term "agriculture" includes fisheries, marine products, forestry, and primary forest products. The Organization's Field Program provides leadership and technical staffing for development projects in these areas that are funded by UNDP, UNICEF, National Trust Funds, and other sources of financial support in share arrangement with recipient nations.

FAO Forestry Department

Forestry was included in the Agriculture Department until 1971, when the Forestry Department was created. It is headed by an Assistant Director-General located in Rome, at FAO headquarters. The Department is divided into two main divisions--Forest Resources and Forest Industries. It has representation at FAO Regional Offices in Accra (Africa); Bangkok (Asia and the Far East); Geneva (Europe); and Santiago (Latin America).

Regular Program forestry projects are grouped under three broad technical programs:

1. Forest Resources.
2. Forest Industries.
3. Forest Institutions, Planning, Statistics, and Trade.

Under these Program areas, the Forestry Department conducts market surveys and feasibility studies, as well as provides counsel and assistance to developing countries in establishing forest industries.

Forestry field staffs are recruited and assigned to projects according to the purpose and available funds supporting the project.

The Department publishes a quarterly, "Unasylva," an international journal of forestry and forest industries, as well as associated resources, such as water and wildlife.

FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO)

To help the FAO perform its functions, the FAO Council has established five Permanent Committees, including the Committee on Forestry (COFO). The Chief of the Forest Service, USDA, represents the United States on this Committee.

The main purposes of this Committee are to review the forestry programs of FAO, and to advise the Assistant Director-General for Forestry on program activities. COFO normally holds one session during each biennium, usually in the nonconference years. The Committee holds additional sessions if called by the Assistant Director-General, or on written request to the Assistant Director-General by a majority of the members.

Panel of Experts on Forest Gene Resources

This Panel helps plan and coordinate FAO's efforts to explore, utilize, and conserve the gene resources of forest trees. In particular, its task is to help prepare a detailed short-term program and draft a long-term program for FAO's action in this field, and to provide information to member governments. The Panel was established in 1967; experts are selected on an individual basis. The United States has membership on the Panel.

Committee on Wood-Based Panel Products

The United States is a member of the Committee on Wood-Based Panel Products, established in 1965 to:

1. Advise the Director-General on matters relating to panel products.
2. Indicate special topics or sectors that should be published internationally.
3. Furnish guidance and technical, statistical, and economic data pertaining to wood-based panel products that should be published internationally.

Membership consists of no less than 15 and no more than 30 member nations or associate members, selected by the Director-General of FAO, as representing nations involved in the consumption and/or production of wood-based panels. Personnel from industry make up a large proportion of the membership on this Committee.

Committee on Forest Development in the Tropics

This Committee was established in 1966. It studies the technical, economic, and social problems relating to the development of tropical forests, particularly in developing countries, with emphasis on production, utilization, and conservation, as well as the marketing of forest products.

The 15 to 30 member nations selected by the Director-General reflect the interests of both the foresters and forest industries, as these relate to the major types of tropical forests and forest products in different regions of the world. The United States is a member.

Advisory Committee of Experts on Pulp and Paper

This Committee, established in 1960, advises the Director-General on the evolution and implementation of the FAO programs in the field of pulp and paper, and on the methods of program development and holds meetings annually.

Membership includes 12 to 20 experts appointed by the Director-General. The United States is represented on the Committee.

Advisory Committee on Forestry Education

The Director-General receives advice from this Committee on the implementation of FAO programs in forestry education, and on the ways in which those programs should be developed.

The Committee was established in 1947 and holds meetings at least every two years. U.S. representation on this Committee is usually from a forestry school.

Forestry Commissions

The six Regional Forestry Commissions of FAO are intergovernmental bodies established by the Conference to exchange information and to advise on the formulation and implementation of policy.

The North American Forestry Commission (NAFC) is composed of Mexico, United States, and Canada, with the chairmanship rotating among them.

A Committee of Alternates, made up of a senior representative from each member country, carries on the work of the NAFC between sessions, which are held every two years.

The NAFC Study Groups are:

1. Fire Management.
2. Forest Insects and Diseases.
3. Forest Tree Improvement.
4. Wildlife and Outdoor Recreation.
5. Forest Engineering.
6. Remote Sensing.
7. Silviculture.

The Silviculture Study Group, the latest to be set up by the NAFC, was established in 1977. Initially, the Group has been concentrating on subjects of particular relevance to the tropics.

The Forest Service is responsible for designating U.S. members to the various Study Groups within the NAFC, drawing on federal and state governments, universities, and industry. Most of the Study Groups have one or more Forest Service representatives.

International Poplar Commission (IPC)

The IPC, established in 1947, was included in the framework of the FAO in 1977. The IPC studies all aspects of poplar and willow species, promotes an exchange of ideas and material between research workers, producers, and users, organizes congresses, and makes recommendations to the FAO Conference and to the National Poplar Commissions (in the United States, the Poplar Council) of the member countries.

The IPC has three working parties: exploitation and utilization of poplar wood, poplar diseases, and poplar insect pests.

The World Forestry Congress

Most of the activites of the Congress are carried out under the aegis of the FAO. The Congress consists of scientists, technicians, administrators, and others interested in forestry and its allied fields. It is open to participants from countries that are members of the FAO, the UN, and its Specialized Agencies. A General Committee plans and processes the work of each Congress, and consists chiefly of members from the host country and the FAO, with the latter providing an executive secretary.

The Congress serves as a forum for the exchange of views and experience, and for the discussion of matters concerning all aspects of forestry that may lead to formulating broad recommendations applicable on a regional or world-wide basis. The functions of the Congress are advisory. Implementation of its recommendations is a matter solely for those in governments, international organizations, and scientific bodies.

The Congress normally meets every six years. The Eighth World Forestry Congress met in Jakarta, Indonesia, in October 1978, attended by more than 2,000 delegates from 104 countries and 14 international organizations.

The Forest Service furnishes leadership to the U.S. National Committee, established to coordinate United States participation at each Congress. The members are selected from government agencies, universities, and other interested bodies.

United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

The principal aim of this Organization is to undertake educational, scientific, and cultural programs among nations. UNESCO is composed of a General Conference of 142 member nations and meets every two years to approve programs and budgets. The Secretariat, with half its staff in Paris and half in the field, is responsible for the execution of the program. In most member countries there is a National Commission, including government and nongovernment personnel, which acts as a liaison body.

UNESCO has agreements with ILO and FAO, and with intergovernmental organizations that are not within the UN, such as the International Bureau of Weights and Measures and the Council of Central Europe. It also organizes meetings among scientists and other professionals, and promotes the exchange of information on natural and human resources. UNESCO participates in the UN Development Program by sending experts and supplying equipment to project areas, and by granting fellowships.

Man and the Biosphere (MAB)

In 1968, UNESCO was asked to develop a program to solve man/environment problems of the biosphere.

At the UNESCO General Conference in 1970, plans were approved for the Man and the Biosphere program, and the governing body, International Coordinating Council (ICC), was established.

The MAB program functions as an intergovernmental, interdisciplinary, problem-solving effort. Its goals are to determine:

--the structure and functioning of the biosphere and its ecological regions,
--the changes brought about by man in the biosphere,
--the effects of these changes upon human populations, and
--the education and information needed on these subjects.

The U.S. National Committee for MAB, with representatives from federal agencies and state and private institutions, guides the development of national research, research implementation, and training activities relating to the international program.

United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) is the world's largest multilateral technical assistance program. It supplies most of the funds for the numerous UN development projects throughout the world, and is especially active in areas of resource management, including forestry. The Chief Administrator is located at UN Headquarters in New York. Numerous field offices throughout the world are headed by resident UNDP representatives.

Policy control is provided by a Governing Council composed of representatives of 48 nations, including both developed and developing countries. One-third of the membership changes each year. The Council meets twice a year to approve projects and allocate funds. This program is financed by voluntary contributions from 140 member countries of the UN each year, and from nongovernmental agencies.

It is estimated that the total cost of all projects under way at the end of 1981 exceed $5 billion. The developing countries contribute at least 55 percent of the cost through the provision of personnel, buildings, supplies, and facilities. The remaining 45 percent, financed by UNDP resources, covers the expenses of development experts, project equipment, and advanced technical services.

Project plans for which assistance is sought are prepared in the developing countries. After UNDP approval, funds are allotted to one of the UN family of specialized agencies for executing the project. FAO is the implementing agency for most forestry projects.

Extensive UNDP-assisted projects are directed at helping low-income countries improve utilization of forests, soils, and water resources. Many projects for large-scale urban planning and renewal contain major environmental components, with special emphasis on sanitary engineering, sewage, and location of industrial plants, with a view to minimizing air and water pollution.

United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)

The UN General Assembly created the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) at the recommendation of the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm, Sweden.

An agency of ECOSOC with headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya, UNEP is composed of a Governing Council of 58 nations, elected by the UN General Assembly from the member countries. The Council and a small Secretariat are serviced from the regular budget of the UN. A voluntary environment fund carries the operational and administrative program. The Secretariat serves as a focal point for environmental action within the UN system.

The principal objectives of the Program are:

1. To anticipate and prevent threats to human health and well-being, posed by contamination of food, air, and water.

2. To improve the quality of water for human use, so that all persons may have access to water of a quality compatible with the requirements of human health.

3. To help governments improve the quality of life in rural and urban settlements.

4. To assist governments in anticipating and preventing adverse effects of man-induced modifications of climate and weather.

5. To help governments take into account in development planning the relationships between population growth, density, and distribution, available resources, and environmental effects.

In the forestry sector, UNEP is concerned chiefly with the encroachment of desert on productive lands, management of tropical forests, and the inter-relationships among forest cover, man, and land ecosystems. UNEP supports forestry projects undertaken by both UNESCO and the FAO. UNEP is also developing an Environmental Reference Service with much content related to forestry.

World Food Program (WFP)

The World Food Program was proposed by the Food and Agriculture Organization to create a world food board to buy and retain reserves of food for developing countries, and to cope with catastrophic occurrences. The Intergovernmental Committee (IGC), which represents member governments, is the executive body of the joint UN/FAO program that makes policy decisions, approves the program of work and budget, and evalutes the programs. The United States has been a leading contributor to the WFP since its inception.

The Program is to help needy nations by using surplus food as subsistence capital to finance labor-intensive projects. Food is given in lieu of money to workers on part-time or full-time jobs. This use of food as a development tool in lieu of cash is an innovation in the UN system.

Although agriculture has priority in work projects, forestry, especially tree planting, is becoming more important.

Other UN Agencies with Forestry Interests

Occasionally, Forest Service specialists are called on to provide advisory service or to serve on committees of UN agencies that have highly specialized or otherwise limited forestry interests. Examples include the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the International Labor Organization (ILO), the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the World Association of Industrial and Technological Research Organizations (WAITRO).

THE UNITED NATIONS FAMILY

(A PARTIAL LISTING OF ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES)

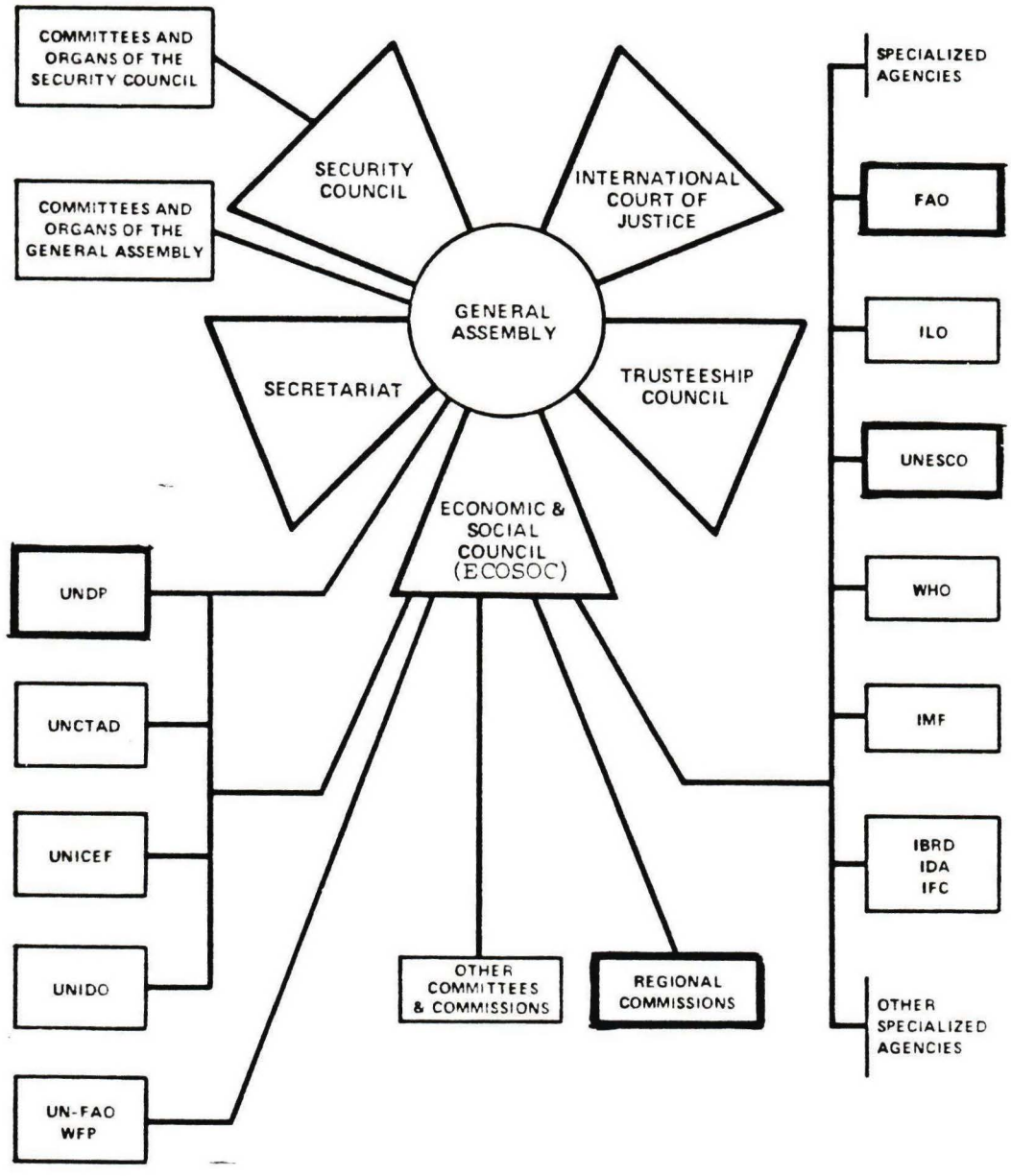

Figure 1

International Agricultural Aviation Center (IAAC)

The Center started in 1958 as the European Agricultural Aviation Center under the auspices of the Organization for European Economic Cooperation. The Center expanded its activities when it became the IAAC in 1960 to allow worldwide participation. It researches and promotes the use of aircraft in agriculture, horticulture, forestry, public health, and resource management.

The Center's quarterly journal "Agricultural Aviation" is supplied free to a broad readership on an exchange basis. IAAC's headquarters is at Bedford, England.

Any national authority responsible for agricultural aviation may join the IAAC. The Center has a Council and Director, and one seat is available on the Council for each member country.

International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (IAFWA)

The International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies is an Association of each State or Territory of the United States, each Province of Canada, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Government, the Dominion Government of Canada, and each government of a country located in the Western Hemisphere, as well as individual associate members. Its principal objective is the conservation, protection, and management of wildlife and fish and related natural resources. IAFWA headquarters is in Washington, D.C.

Organization of American States (OAS)

Longstanding concern of the OAS with problems of agricultural development led to the creation of the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences (IICA) as one of four permanent Secretariates of OAS.

IICA is headquatered in Costa Rica, and is governed by a Board of Directors from 24 countries of the Western Hemisphere. In addition to research and education, activities carried out at its center in Turrialba, IICA functions along six broad lines of action: (1) operating an information and documentation center on all aspects of agricultural and forestry development; (2) strengthening agricultural education; (3) improving management of research institutions; (4) encouraging structural change in the agricultural sectors of member nations; (5) promoting increased productivity by utilization of more advanced technology; and (6) strengthening administration of national agricultural policies and institutions.

In addition to the work of IICA, the OAS is active in forestry-related projects undertaken by its Office of Economic and Social Affairs, through its Rural Development Program and the Regional Development Program.

International Council for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF)

This Council was proposed by Canada's International Development Research Center (IDRC) following the Center's analysis of tropical forest research priorities, undertaken in 1975-76. The IDRC Project Report, Trees, Food and People - Land Management in the Tropics, recommended the establishment of an internationally financed support unit for agroforestry, now know as ICRAF.

The primary role of ICRAF was envisaged as being supportive and catalytic--it could collect, screen, and disseminate hard facts relevant to agroforestry production systems, contract for research in appropriate institutions to fill gaps in existing knowledge, foster field trials and demonstration projects, and support training in agroforestry at all levels.

It was proposed that ICRAF be established by charter as an autonomous international body, that it be governed by a board of trustees, and that it be managed by a small staff of experts in the essential disciplines that would employ consultants where required to broaden its field of competence. The Council is now chartered and headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya.

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

This oganization was established in 1961 and succeeds the Organization for European Economic Cooperation. Its aims are to promote the highest possible economic growth and living standards in member and nonmember countries, and to contribute to an expansion of world trade. Present headquarters is in Paris, France.

Membership in OECD totals 23 countries. The original members were the United Kingdom, the nations of Western Europe, Greece, and Turkey. Membership has since been extended to Canada, the United States, Japan, Finland, Ireland, Iceland, Australia, New Zealand, and Yugoslavia.

OECD committees of particular interest to forestry are Agriculture, Environment, Industry, and Development Assistance.

The Agricultural Committee administers the "Scheme for the Control of Forest Reproductive Material Moving in International Trade." Participation by any country is voluntary but subject to strict adherence.

The Environment Committee studies problems of multidisciplinary nature with other OECD Committees. An example is pollution in the pulp and paper industry.

The Industry Committee is concerned with major industrial developments and trends.

The purposes of the Development Assistance Committee are to expand the resources made available to the less developed countries, and to reduce any overlap or duplication of effort.

International Energy Agency (IEA)

The IEA is a part of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. In 1978, the IEA formally established a Program of Research and Development on Energy from Forestry. The Department of Energy (DOE) has the lead role for the United States in this program. DOE has asked the Forest Service to provide experts to serve on the IEA Energy from Forestry Program.

In the Program, "energy from forestry" is defined as the use of shortrotation forest biomass and forestry residues to produce clean fuels, petrochemical substitutes, and other energy-intensive products.

The objective is to integrate the participants' national activities concerning energy from forestry into an overall coherent program based on: 1) information exchange on national programs, 2) coordination of national programs, and 3) cooperative research, development, and demonstration projects.

Participation in the Energy from Forestry Program includes representatives from the United States, Ireland, Sweden, Canada, New Zealand, Belgium, Austria, and Norway.

International Seed Testing Association (ISTA)

The Secretariat of this Association is located in Geneva, Switzerland. The principal objectives of the Association are to establish rules for testing seeds, and to ensure that the rules are uniformly interpreted and applied throughout the world.

The Association, founded in 1924, publishes an international quarterly journal, Seed Science and Technology. Although ISTA is oriented chiefly to agriculture and horticulture, there is a Forest Tree Seed Committee and forest tree seed has been included in the official testing rules since 1954. In 1975, the first workshop on tree-seed testing sponsored by this Committee was held in Guilford, England.

The Association holds triennial international seed testing congresses. As of March 1977, there were 134 accredited member laboratories in 60 countries.

The Association's chief instrument in promoting uniformity in seed testing is The International Rules of Seed Testing. Authorized seed testing stations may issue test results on International Certificates.

ISTA works closely with such multinational organizations as FAO, OECD, ISO, IUFRO, and the International Seed Trade Association, to prevent duplication of work and to promote agriculture and forest development.

International Society of Soil Sciences (ISSS)

The ISSS, founded in 1924, includes more than 35 national societies and membership from approximately 100 countries.

The Society consists of a council and seven commissions dealing with soil physics, chemistry, biology, fertility, genesis and classification technology, and mineralogy. The members hold an international congress about every four years with inter-congress commission symposia more frequently. The Society works closely with many agencies within the UN, such as UNESCO and FAO.

UNIONS-SOCIETIES-CONFERENCES-CONGRESS

International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU)

The ICSU is an association of scientific unions, academies, national research councils, and related scientific and governmental institutions whose aim is to coordinate and facilitate activities among these groups in the natural sciences. In addition to its own committees, ICSU has joint committees with UNESCO on the feasibility of a worldwide science information system, and with WHO to establish a global atmospheric research program (GARP).

International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO)

IUFRO, founded in 1892, is one of the oldest associations of research bodies in existence. Membership in IUFRO is by individual research institutes, universities, and governments. The secretariat for IUFRO is located in Vienna, Austria.

The main objectives of IUFRO are to exchange ideas among research and allied workers in different countries, carry on joint research programs and projects, convene periodic meetings and study tours, standardize scientific terminology, and classify research procedures.

The governing body is the International Council, composed of one delegate from each representative country. Congresses, which include section meetings, are held about every five years in a host country.

IUFRO has six Divisions and numerous subject groups and project groups. The six Divisions are:

Division 1 - Forest Environment and Silviculture.
Division 2 - Forest Plants and Forest Protection.
Division 3 - Forest Operations and Techniques.
Division 4 - Planning, Economics, Growth and Yield, Management and Policy.
Division 5 - Forest Products.
Division 6 - General Subjects.

The Project Groups are formed to carry out specific tasks, and normally are disbanded when the tasks are completed.

IUFRO Committee on Bibliography and Terminology

This committee was established in 1949 by the Director-General of FAO and the President of IUFRO, on the recommendation of the Third World Forestry Congress.

With the assistance of the Commonwealth Forestry Bureau, the FAO/IUFRO Committee on Bibliography and Terminology developed the original Oxford System of Decimal Classification of Forestry, and an English version was completed in 1954. This publication classified the various fields of forest science, technology, and products.

The Committee then began work on a multilingual Forestry Terminology. In this multilingual project, each forestry term or concept defined is allotted a URN (Universal Reference Number) whereby a full interrelationship between all participating languages can be assured. The English language version was completed in 1971, and the French version in 1975. German and Spanish versions are nearly complete.

The Joint Committee recommended that experts be sent to the World Forestry Congress to form ad hoc groups for the purpose of bringing the Forestry Terminology to languages other than the official FAO/IUFRO ones. The USSR is working on the project at present, and Japan has also expressed interest.

Arrangements have been made through a IUFRO Working Group to keep the terminologies up-to-date.

World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) is the largest private international conservation organization dedicated to the protection of endangered species and related habitats. The headquarters is located in Switzerland.

International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN)

The IUCN's aims are to maintain and enhance the diversity of the biosphere by promoting rational management of the earth's resources. It is dedicated to maintaining the highest sustainable quality of life for mankind.

This organization was founded in 1948 and has its headquarters in Morges, Switzerland. More than 70 nations are represented in the Union.

The IUCN works closely with the various UN agencies and cooperates with a number of councils and organizations in many countries. It also collaborates closely with the International Council for Bird Preservation, the International Council for Scientific Unions, and the World Wildlife fund.

The IUCN secures its basic policy from its Statutes and its General Assembly, which meets every three years. Specific policy guidance is provided by the Executive Board, the Executive Committee, and six Commissions. The IUCN is supported by membership dues, private donations, grants, and by the World Wildlife Fund. U.S. Government membership is shared by the Forest Service National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Environmental Protection Agency .

Additional United States representation comes from a number of non-governmental organizations in consortium under the American Committee for International Conservation.

International Union of Societies of Foresters (IUSF)

This organization came into being in 1961. The present headquarters of IUSF is in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Its purpose is to advance cooperation for the promotion of practical forestry and of the forester's profession throughout the world. The members are national societies of foresters and others working in fields closely related to the management and utilization of forest resources. The Union aims at filling the need for professional contacts between foresters on a global scale.

Generally, meetings are held every five or six years in conjunction with those of other organizations, such as the World Forestry Congress.

The Society of American Foresters is a charter member of IUSF.

International Society of Tropical Foresters (ISTF)

The International Society of Tropical Foresters (ISTF) was organized in 1961. It has currently been reactivated by the Society of American Foresters. Its primary purpose is to provide a forum for the exchange of information that may lead to the best use of tropical forest lands, not only for the production of timber but equally for the conservation of soil, water, fauna and flora, and related values. Its headquarters are at the SAF Office in Bethesda, Maryland.

Club du Sahel

Club du Sahel is a consortium of national governments, international organizations, and other groups banded together in a broad cooperative program of assistance to the Sahel region of northern Africa. United States contribution to this program is administered by the African Bureau of AID.

UNITED NATIONS PARTICIPATING AND EXECUTING AGENCIES

Projects are carried out on behalf of the UN Development Program by the United Nations and the participating and executing agencies listed below. In addition, UNDP now directly executes a limited number of projects. Inquiries on projects, recruitment practices, and contract tenders should be addressed to the relevant agency. General inquiries about the program should be addressed to : UNDP/Information Division, Carnegie Building (3rd Floor), 345 East 46th Street, New York, N.Y. 10016, U.S.A.

United Nations
New York, N.Y. 10017, U.S.A.

International Labor Organization
(ILO)
Ch 1211, Geneva 22, Switzerland

Food and Agriculture Organization
(FAO) of the United Nations
Via delle Terme de Caracalla
00100 Rome, Italy

United Nations Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
Place de Fontenoy, 75700 Paris, France

World Meteorological Organization
(WMO)
41 Avenue Giuseppe Molta
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

United Nations Industrial Development
Organization (UNIDO)
Lerchenfelderstrasse 1
A-1070 Vienna, Austria

APPENDIX

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

COFO	Committee of Forestry (FAO)
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa (UN)
ECAFE	Economic Commission for Asia (UN)
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe (UN)
ECLA	Ecomonic Commission for Latin America (UN)
ECOSCO	Economic and Social Council (UN)
EEC	European Economic Community
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization (UN)
IAAC	International Agricultural Aviation Center
IAFWA	International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
ICSU	International Council of Scientific Unions
IBF	International Biological Program
ICRAF	International Council of Research in Agroforestry
IEA	International Energy Agency (OECD)
ILO	International Labor Organization (UN)
IPC	International Poplar Commission (FAO)
ISSS	International Society of Soil Sciences
ISTA	International Seed Testing Association
ISTF	International Society of Foresters
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
IUFRO	International Union of Forestry Research Organizations
IUFS	International Union of Societies of Foresters
MAB	Man and the Biosphere
NAFC	North American Forestry Commission (FAO)
OAS	Organization of American States
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

SAF	Society of American Foresters
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WAITRO	World Association of Industrial and Technological Research Organizations (UN)
WFP	World Food Program (UN)
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

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